HOUSE No. 32

Accompanying the second recommendation of the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security (House, No. 30). The Judiciary.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand and Nine.

AN ACT RELATIVE TO THE CRIMINAL HISTORY SYSTEMS BOARD.

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Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

SECTION 1. Section 168 of chapter 6 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2006 Official Edition, is hereby amended by striking out the fourth and sixth paragraphs.

SECTION 2. Said chapter 6 is hereby amended by inserting after section 168 the following section:—

Section 168 ½. There shall be within the executive office of public safety and security a Massachusetts public safety information center, hereinafter called the center. The center shall provide for and exercise control over the installation, operation and maintenance of data processing and data communication systems, hereinafter called the criminal justice information system. Said system shall be designed to ensure the prompt collection, exchange, dissemination and distribution of such criminal offender record information as may be necessary for the efficient administration and operation of criminal justice agencies, and to connect such systems directly or indirectly with similar systems in this or other states. The secretary of public safety and security shall appoint a commissioner who shall be classified in accordance with section 45 of chapter 30 and the salary shall be determined in accordance with section 46C of said chapter 30. Such commissioner shall not be subject to the provisions of chapter 31 or section 9A of chapter 30. Said commissioner shall be responsible for all data processing, for the management of the automated criminal offender record information and teleprocessing system, for the supervision of all personnel associated with said system and for the appointment of all such personnel. The commissioner may appoint such other employees, including experts and consultants, as he deems necessary to carry out the center's responsibilities, none of whom shall be subject to the provisions of chapter 31 or of section 9A of chapter 30.

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 The center is authorized to enter into contracts and agreements with, and accept gifts, grants, contributions, and bequests of funds from, any department, agency, or subdivision of federal, state, county, or municipal government and any individual, foundation, corporation, association, or public authority for the purpose of providing or receiving services, facilities or staff assistance in connection with its work. Such funds shall be deposited with the state treasurer and may be expended by the center in accordance with the conditions of the gift, grant, contribution, or bequest, without specific appropriation.

SECTION 3. Chapter 6A of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby amended by striking out section 18 and inserting in place thereof the following section:-

Section 18. The following state agencies are hereby declared to be within the executive office of public safety and security: the department of public safety; the department of fire services; the office of grants and research and the highway safety division; the municipal police training committee; the criminal history systems board; the Massachusetts public safety information center, the state 911 department; the department of state police; the office of the chief medical examiner; the Massachusetts emergency management agency; the military department; the department of correction, including the parole board; the sex offender registry board; and all other agencies and boards within said departments, committees, centers and boards.

SECTION 4. References in any general or special law to the criminal history systems board or the executive director thereof, except for the references in sections 171, 172, 172A, 172C, 172E, 172G, 172H, 172I, 172J, 173, 175, 176 and 178A of chapter 6 and in section 38R of chapter 71, shall be deemed to refer to the Massachusetts public safety information center or its commissioner.